



Lovely Strange Dark

MINATO MACHI NEKO MACHI
"PORT TOWN CAT TOWN"
BY NANAMAKI KANAKO
CHAPTER 7

Translation: Horenless
Editing: Kot
QC: Iona



●作者からのメッセージ●

海を描くときは、絵でも文章でも無意識に故郷の海を描いてしまうものなのだそうです。私の場合、瀬戸内海？一年中暖かくて、波がなくて、また一ひした海です。それじゃ、波を描くのが苦手です(笑)。

●作者プロフィール●

6月2日生まれのみたこ麻、A型。1996年『プチフラワー』にて17歳で少年の優等生でデビュー。現在『月刊flowers』、flowers増刊『花な』で活躍中。

月刊フラワーズ
flowers
珠玉の少女君らが進化型
毎月28日ごろ発売
<http://flowers.shogakukan.co.jp>



FLC α FLOWER COMICS α
港町猫町2
奈々巻かなこ

FLC α
FLOWER COMICS α

SHOGAKU

港町猫町2
奈々巻かなこ

小学館
FCA3117



ISBN978-4-09-133647-7

C9979 ¥400E

定価：本体400円＋税

雑誌 46046-47 小学館

●奈々巻かなこの単行本

●フラワーコミックスα

港町猫町 ①～②

最新情報はこちらから
<http://www.shogakukan.co.jp/>



This is a small port town.
A strange port town where
cats take on the appearance
of boys and live with girls
they call 'witches' who
carry a deep loneliness
in their hearts.

One snowy night, Shara tells
Kana the story of Rudy's Kiss,
one that all cats know...

Six heartwarming stories
that might make you cry
just a little bit!

Contents

ルーティのキス／雪の下ポスト
ツツシと真のスープ／真の上の交差点
前白はここを出てゆく日／涙を見上げる鳥



FLC α
FLOWER COMICS α

電子版あり/イラストレーション/著者の名義
電子版あり/デザイン/電子版あり/ブリッジ/スタジオ

FLC α
FLOWER COMICS α
港町猫町②

flowers フラワーコミックスα+

港町猫町

2

MINATO MACHI
NEKO-MACHI (2)

奈々巻かなこ

NAKAMAKI KANAKO



港町貓町

CONTENTS

Rudy's Kiss ——— 5

The Postbox Under the Sky ——— 29

Sea Snail Soup ——— 61

The Intersection Above ——— 93

Tomorrow's the Day I Leave ——— 125

The Chicken Looking up at the Waves ——— 155

Afterward ——— 189



Shard



Tart



Ren



Toku

CHARACTER INTRODUCTION

KANO

Owner of the Kano Hotel.
Moved to the town after
meeting Shara. Formerly
a star actress.



SHARA

The naive and innocent
black cat living with Kano.
Warmes up to people quickly
and gets lonely easily.



REN

The first cat to live with a
witch in this town. Slightly
selfish silver-furred cat
living with Sera.



SCRA

Works at the Kano
Hotel as a cook.



THE STORY...

In this hilly port town, cats
will sometimes take on the
appearance of boys and live
with girls they call "witches"
who carry a deep loneliness in
their hearts. Kano left her old
life in the city to open a hotel
here, where the outword
Sera now works, and they live
with their cats in a world
filled with little mysteries.

THE DESCENDANT OF THE FIRST WITCH

Able to climb hilly roads
quickly with her magic.



TART

A handsome cat, but
a bit of an airhead.







RUDY'S KISS

There was a
part town in
the south where
it snowed two
or three times
each winter.



On those nights,
you could hear
curious stories you
never thought
you would

by chatting
with a cat by
the fireplace.

In this port town, cats sometimes take on the appearance of people.

One night,
my cat
Shara and
I were
talking.

I can't remember how the conversation started, but—

and live together with girls they call "witches."

BECAUSE
CATS HAVE
NINE LIVES,
JOHNS.

Abstract

TO ASK
A CAT'S
AGE?

JUST
DON'T.
IT'S A
PAIN.







WAITING
FOR YOU?

WAS
SHE



WHAT
ABOUT
YOU?

MY NAME
IS RUDY.

I'M
A CAT

NO.

ARE
YOU THE
PERSON
MY GRAND-
MOTHER WAS
WAITING
FOR?

I'M

I'M MOMO.

NICE TO MEET YOU, RUDY.

THE SUN'S SETTING. I HAVE TO GET BACK.

She was so very cute that Rudy fell in love with her at first sight.

SHE CAN SEE ME!

Wouldn't it be just amazing to have a girl you could look at the ocean with all day long?

THIS WHOLE TIME?

LOOKING AT THE OCEAN.

WHAT WERE YOU DOING, MOMO?

GET BACK.

TO THAT HOUSE?!

Why did it...
Oogiri Kuroki

ALL DAY. THAT'S WHAT MY GRAND-MOTHER DID.

ALL DAY!

THIS WHOLE TIME.



THERE
AREN'T ANY
LIGHTS.



A LITTLE
EXCITING.

THIS IS
ACTU-
ALLY



There in that
dilapidated
room, he found
the girl sitting
stiffly, cold
as ice.



SO,
MOMO,

YOU
WERE A
DOLL ALL
ALONG!

WHATEVER,
NOT THAT I
REALLY CARE
EITHER WAY—



HMMPH.

SHE'S
SO COLD.

WHA

WAIT A
SECOND,
SHARA!

T?!!



LET
ME TELL
YOU MORE
OF THE
STORY.

THAT'S
NOT EVEN
THE PART YOU
SHOULD BE
UPSET OVER,
KANO.



HE DIDN'T
CARE? YOU
CAN'T JUST
HAVE YOUR
HAND AND
SAY THAT!

THE GIRL HE
LOVED WAS
A DOLL! WOULDN'T HE
BE SHOCKED
OR UPSET
OR SOME-
THING?

RUDY WAS
THE SORT
OF ONE WHO
HATED GET-
TING UPSET
OVER ANY-
THING.

I'M THE
SAME.



pepy



Aaa—

SO WHAT
GIVES YOU
LIFE

IS THE
MORNING
DEW FILLED
WITH THE
TREES' LIFE
FORCE...



...

WHO
ARE YOU?



WHATEVER,
NOT THAT I
REALLY CARE
EITHER WAY.

But—

LET'S
WATCH
THE OCEAN
TODAY.

GOOD
MORNING,
MOMO





And when it did, all her memories of that day would be lost.

The doll's life was sustained by nothing but the leaves' dew drops, and each evening it would run out.





was
her long-
departed
grand-
mother's
last wish?

What if the
thing keeping
all the trees
and the house
and Momo alive

In that
moment...
Rudy had a
thought.



YOU'RE
RIGHT
SHE
CAN'T

AND
I'M
SO...

SO
LONELY.



BUT
STILL...
I
SEE.

AT
LEAST...
I DON'T
THINK
SHE IS.

YOUR
GRAND-
MOTHER
ISN'T
AROUND
ANY
MORE.



WHO
ARE YOU?

like dew
gathering
on leaves
only to
evaporate
away.



TASTE
JUST LIKE
THE MORN-
ING DEW.

YOUR
TEARS

Day
after
day
after
day.

I GUESS
EVEN A
DOLL WILL
CRY FOR
ITS
GRAND-
MOTHER.

WITH
ITS CHEEKS
ALL RED...



Each
day a Mark
slate, day
after day.

THE SUN'S
SETTING, I
HAVE TO
GET BACK.



I LOVE
YOU VERY
MUCH.

DO YOU
LOVE ME?

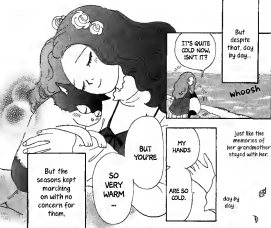
Rudy's
words never
lasted in her
heart.



YOU'LL
STILL BE
IN MY
HEART...

EVEN IF
YOU DON'T
REMEMBER
ME.







AND I KNOW SHE'LL TELL ME SHE LOVES ME WHEN SHE DOES.

MOMO WILL WAKE UP AGAIN ONCE SPRING COMES.



THIS IS BEYOND FIXING. I HATE TO SAY IT, BUT WE'LL HAVE TO TEAR IT DOWN.

I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE TO PUT MY FEET.



CERTAINLY! THAT'S PERFECTLY FINE!

IS THAT ALL, RIGHT?



MY! IT'S IN SHAM-BLES!



MY GOODNESS! COME QUICKLY, DEAR!

WHAT'S WRONG?

AHH!!

IT'D BE GLAD TO HANDLE THE DEMOLITION MYSELF AS SOON AS YOU PURCHASE THE LOT.

I'VE BEEN ENTRUSTED WITH LIQUIDATING THE OLD WOMAN'S ENTIRE ESTATE BY HER SON.





THEY'RE
GOING TO
TEAR DOWN
THE HOUSE.

THEY'RE
GOING TO
THROW
MOMO
AWAY.

RIGHT
AWAY!

I HAVE TO
RUN AWAY
WITH HER.



WOULDN'T
SHE BE

"DEAD",
THEN?



BUT

ONCE SHE
LEAVES THIS
HOUSE—

THE
DOW FROM
THE TREES
WILL NEVER
GIVE MOMO
LIFE AGAIN.

NO...
ONCE THIS
HOUSE IS
GONE,



I'M...
A CAT.

I CAN
GIVE HER
MY LIFE.

I KNOW
A WAY.



That
was be-
cause—

WHAT IS IT
THAT I REALLY
WANT THE
MOST IN THE
WORLD...



For the
first time
in his life.

he curled
up into a
ball on
the floor.

and wondered
what he should
do and he could
hardly breathe.



BUT—

BUT
IF I DO
THAT...

Rady
didn't
know
what
to do.



NO.



TO
SNUGGLE
UP BESIDE
SOMEONE AND
SPEND THE
WHOLE DAY
SLEEPING?

TO
WATCH THE
OCEAN WITH
SOMEONE?

SO VERY
WARM...

YOU'RE



happy



I ONLY
WANT

YOUR
HEART.

That was
because,
of all the
nine lives
Rudy had,

the one
he gave
her



was
his

very
last
one.



WHO...
ARE YOU?



I'VE
GIVEN
YOU

I'M BIDDY
THE CAT.

REAL
LIFE.





RUDY!

RUDY! NO! YOU'RE SO COLD!



slip slip slip

THAT'S BECAUSE IT'S REAL LIFE.

YOU CAN EVEN GO ACROSS THE OCEAN NOW.



ME?

I FEEL IT!

IT'S LIKE SOMETHING VERY WARM IS SPREADING THROUGH MY ENTIRE BODY.



YOU HAVE A REAL LIFE NOW.

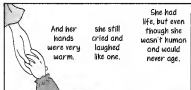
drip

TOMORROW... AND THE DAY AFTER.

SO YOU'LL ALWAYS REMEMBER ME, WON'T YOU?

YOU'RE CRYING...





And her
hands
were very
warm.

she still
cried and
laughed
like one.

She had
life, but even
though she
wasn't human
and would
never age,

after that,
Mama never
once left
this town.



THE
WARMTH
THAT RUDDY
THE CAT ONCE
GAVE ME.

THAT'S
JUST



STRANGE,
ISN'T IT?

YEAH.

"MOMMY'S NOT
LIKE US, BUT
SHE'S STILL THE
SAME AS US."

MY DAD
SAYS THE
SAME
THING.



SO LONG
AS ANY OF
THE LIFE HE
GAVE ME
REMAINS.

AND
I'LL NEVER
FORGET
HIM



I CAN STILL
REMEMBER
HOW HIS EYES
WOULD LOOK
AT ME.



WE CATS
KNOW THAT
VERY WELL.

EVEN WITH
NINE LIVES,
NOT ALL OF
THEM WILL BE
HAPPY ONES.



AND
MOMO
WOULD
SAY THAT
UNTIL THE
DAY

THAT
STORY'S
BEEN PASSED
DOWN FROM CATS
WHO HEARD IT
DIRECTLY FROM
MOMO.

HER REAL
LIFE ENDED
AND SHE
WENT TO
SLEEP.



IS ONE OF
THE MOST
IMPORTANT
THINGS TO
A CAT.

SO THE
QUESTION,
"WHAT IS IT
THAT I REALLY
WANT THE
MOST IN THE
WORLD,"



in this
small
port
town,

WE'RE
THE
SAME.

I KNOW.





HEH...
KANO,

NO
THANKS, I
DON'T WANT
TO BECOME
AN ICICLE.

WANT TO
GO TO THE
TOP OF THAT
DAVE ONCE
THE SNOW
LETS UP?

cots will some-
times take on the
appearance of
humans and live
with girls they
call "witches".

and the girls
they live with
learn a "bit of
magic to help
them find
happiness".

The cot's silent
words brought me
such happiness.

IF YOU
WERE MOMO
AND I WERE
RUDY,

I'D
HAVE DONE
THE SAME
THING.

and at the same time such pain.

An old story for a snowy night.